

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0208-24_

SPONSOR: Casey Allen Johnson

**TITLE: An Action Relating to Resources and Development Committee;
Reappointing Lawrence Platero to the Management Board of the Navajo Nation
Hospitality Enterprise**

Date posted: September 17, 2024 at 5:12PM

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0208-24

DATE: September 16, 2024

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE; REAPPOINTING LAWRENCE PLATERO TO THE MANAGEMENT BOARD OF THE NAVAJO NATION HOSPITALITY ENTERPRISE

PURPOSE: The purpose of this legislation is to reappoint Mr. Lawrence Platero to the Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise's Management Board for a term of three (3) years.

Final Authority: Resources and Development Committee

Vote Required: Simple Majority

This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committee. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each Council Delegate to review the proposed resolution in detail.

OLC No. 24-350-1

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD 8-27
Website Posting Time/Date _____
Posting End Date: 09-22-24
Eligible for Action: 09-23-24

1 PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION
2 25th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL—Second Year, 2024

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 
5

6 Primary Sponsor

7
8 TRACKING NO. 0208-24

9
10 AN ACTION

11 RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE;
12 REAPPOINTING LAWRENCE PLATERO TO THE MANAGEMENT BOARD OF
13 THE NAVAJO NATION HOSPITALITY ENTERPRISE

14
15 **BE IT RESOLVED:**

16 **SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY**

- 17 A. The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council has
18 the authority to give final approval for appointments to the Navajo Nation
19 enterprises. 2 N.N.C. § 501(B)(9).
- 20 B. 5 N.N.C. § 1843(A) states: “The business and affairs of [the Navajo Nation Hospitality
21 Enterprise] shall be managed by a five-person Board of Directors, the members of which
22 shall meet the qualifications established in [the Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise’s]
23 plan of operation. The Board of Directors shall conduct its business in a similar manner
24 as boards of directors of successful corporations in the hospitality business, to the extent
25 feasible and permitted under [the Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise’s] plan of
26 operation and other applicable Navajo law.

27
28 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

- 29 A. The Navajo Nation Hospitality Enterprise (or “NNHE”)’s Plan of Operation (the
30 “Plan of Operation”) was approved via Resolution CD-79-02. Article V(A) of the

1 Plan of Operation states that “[t]he Management Board shall consist of five (5)
2 members appointed for staggered three-year terms by the President of the Navajo
3 Nation with the concurrence of the Economic Development Committee [now, the
4 Resources and Development Committee] of the Navajo Nation Council.”

5 B. Article V(B) of the Plan of Operation states that “Of the five (5) Board members
6 appointed, one (1) member must be an experienced business person, one (1) member
7 from the Government Services Committee [now the Naabik’iyáti Committee] of the
8 Navajo Nation Council; one (1) from the Economic Development Committee [now
9 the Resources and Development Committee] of the Navajo Nation Council; and two
10 (2) members must have recognized expertise and substantial management experience
11 in the motel-restaurant industry. No other employee of the federal or Navajo Nation
12 government shall be a member of the Management Board. No Board member shall be
13 an employee of the Enterprise.”

14 C. Each NNHE Board member shall serve a term of three (3) years. Plan of
15 Operation Article V(A).

16 D. Between 30 and 60 days prior to the expiration of any Board member’s term,
17 the President of the Navajo Nation is to appoint a qualified person to fill the
18 expected Board member vacancy. Plan of Operation Article V(C).

19 E. If the President of the Navajo Nation fails to nominate a qualified individual
20 to fill the vacant Board position within 60 days, the Resources and
21 Development Committee may nominate and confirm an appointment to the
22 NNHE Management Board on its own initiative. Plan of Operation Article
23 V(H).

24 F. Pursuant to RDCO-39-20, Lawrence Platero was reappointed to the NNHE
25 Management Board for a term of three years, which expired on October 13,
26 2023.

27 G. On October 31, 2023, Lawrence Platero sent a letter of interest about being
28 reappointed to the NNHE Management Board and his resume to NNHE Chief
29 Executive Officer Stan Sapp, which are attached as **Exhibit A**.

30

1 H. On November 21, 2023, the NNHE Management Board passed Resolution No. 2023-
2 5 supporting the reappointment of Lawrence Platero to the NNHE Management
3 Board to serve in the capacity as one of the two “Industry Experts” on the Board. On
4 February 21, 2024, NNHE Chief Executive Officer Stan Sapp sent a letter to
5 President Dr. Buu Nygren submitting NNHE Resolution No 2023-5 and Mr. Platero’s
6 letter of interest and resume to President Nygren for consideration. NNHE
7 Resolution No. 2023-5 and the February 21, 2024 letter are herein attached as
8 **Exhibit B.**

9 I. President Nygren did not nominate a qualified individual to fill the vacant
10 Board position within 60 days after being notified of the vacancy.

11 J. Resources and Development Committee therefore finds it in the best interest
12 of the Navajo Nation to reappoint Lawrence Platero to the NNHE
13 Management Board to serve as an “Industry Expert”.

14
15 **SECTION THREE. APPROVAL**

16 The Resources and Development Committee of the Navajo Nation Council hereby
17 confirms the reappointment of Lawrence Platero to the Navajo Nation Hospitality
18 Enterprise’s Management Board for a term of three (3) years.